

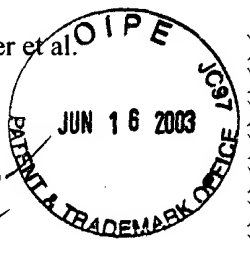
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MICHAEL, Günther et al.

Serial No.: 09/740,039

Filed: December 20, 2000

For: Hydrophobic Silica



Group Art Unit: 1712

Examiner: METZMAIER, Daniel S.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, Applicants are enclosing an Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO/SB/08A) and copies of the documents cited therein. The relevance of EP 0 280 851 and EP 0 010 655 is indicated in the Official Action of the German Patent Office (dated August 9, 2000) being submitted herewith. The relevance of GB 2 225 570 and JP 63054485 is indicated in the Official Action of the British Patent Office (dated April 25, 2003) being submitted herewith. U.S. Patent No. 5,429,873, U.S. Patent No. 4,680,173, and U.S. Patent No. 6,124,392, cited in the Official Action of the British Patent Office, were previously made of record by the Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement dated June 1, 2001.

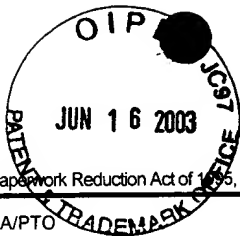
It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be considered by the Examiner in the above-identified patent application and that the cited documents be made officially of record therein. It is further requested that a listing of the same appear on the face of any patent which may issue from this application.

An Advisory Action was issued on May 22, 2003 for this application. Therefore, Applicants have enclosed a check in the amount of \$180.00 for fees due under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(c)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

By: Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531

Dated: June 11, 2003
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PTO/SB/08b(05-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/740,039
Filing Date	12/20/2000
First Named Inventor	MICHAEL, Günther et al.
Group Art Unit	1712
Examiner Name	METZMAIER, Daniel S.
Attorney Docket Number	32301W090

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TC 1700**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		OFFICIAL ACTION, dated August 9, 2000, issued by the German Patent Office, for German Patent Application No. 199 61 933.6 (2 pages)	
		OFFICIAL ACTION, dated April 25, 2003, issued by the British Patent Office, for British Patent Application No. GB 0030863.5 (1 page)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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